

division of public housing & rental assistance



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Massachusetts Rental Vouchers *Fact Sheet*

The Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP), formerly known as the Chapter 707 Program, provides a permanent improvement in the lives of low-income families and individuals by offering both tenant- and project-based rental subsidies. The tenant-based voucher, which is known as Mobile, is assigned to the Participant and is valid for any housing unit that meets the standards of the state sanitary code. Project Based vouchers are assigned to a specific housing unit or development. The owner rents these units to a program eligible tenant, and Project Based tenants who move forfeit the subsidy. In both cases, a Regional Non-Profit housing agency or a Local Housing Authority administers the program locally. There are currently 8 Regional Non-Profit Housing Agencies and 121 Local Housing Authorities that administer the MRVP throughout the Commonwealth to 7900 households (3500 Mobile, 4400 Project Based). Through the assistance of this program, thousands of Massachusetts's families and individuals benefit from the long-term stabilization of their often uncertain housing and financial situation.

DHCD's Division of Public Housing and Rental Assistance, which administers this program, has the responsibility for regulatory and administrative oversight of all state public housing programs which address the needs of low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

How it works

For the Mobile component (tenant based program), the state subsidy or voucher value is a set amount. This amount is determined by several factors: the tenant's income, household size and geography. The participants pays the difference between the value of the voucher and what the landlord charges for rent. *Due to current budget constraints applications and new vouchers are not being issued by Local Housing Agencies.*

For the Project Based component, a participant pays either 35% or 40% of their adjusted gross
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income, depending upon whether or not heat is included in the utilities. While waiting lists for the Project Based component are lengthy, some Local Housing Agencies are still accepting applications.

Who is eligible

An applicant whose household income does not exceed 200% of the prevailing Federal Poverty Level. The Local Housing Agency will also screen for CORI prior to admitting an applicant to the program.

Application process

Due to budget constraints the MRVP is Mobile component is currently frozen and new vouchers cannot be issued to applicants from the Local Housing Agencies' waiting list. However an applicant may apply for a Project Based subsidy if the Local Housing Agency waiting list is open. A Local Housing Agency is still able to fill vacancies that occur in Project Based units.

For further information

Please contact the Bureau of State Rental Assistance at (617) 573-1340.